

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No  
PCT/GB 03/01695

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 B01D46/00 B01D39/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 121 968 A (NICHIAS CO LTD) 8 August 2001 (2001-08-08) claims 1,2,4	1,3-6
A		17,22
Y		2
P,X	EP 1 247 559 A (NICHIAS CO LTD) 9 October 2002 (2002-10-09) page 3, paragraph 20; claim 1	1,3-10
X	US 4 227 899 A (MENY ALLAN H ET AL) 14 October 1980 (1980-10-14) column 2, line 61 -column 3, line 9 column 10, line 65 -column 11, line 2	1
	-/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family.

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 August 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/09/2003

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 389 (M-1449), 21 July 1993 (1993-07-21) & JP 05 070808 A (NIPPON SEISEN CO LTD), 23 March 1993 (1993-03-23) abstract ---	2
A	US 5 098 454 A (DE TASSIGNY CHRISTIAN ET AL) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) claim 1 ---	1-26
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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
Information on patent family members

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